1980: The seven-block area surrounding Union Station is designated a historic district and listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

1984: The last passenger train departs from Union Station and the building is abandoned.

1987: The U.S. General Services Administration, with Congressional authorization, arranges a 35-year lease of the building from the city of Tacoma.

1990-1992: Union Station is rehabilitated and converted for use as a courthouse. An addition provides more space for use by the courts.

Building Facts

Architects: Reed and Stem

Renovation and Restoration: Merritt+Pardini in association with TRA (The Richardson Associates)

Courthouse Addition: Merritt+Pardini and Bassetti Norton Metler Rekevics

Construction Dates: 1909-1911; Courthouse addition: 1992

Landmark Status: Listed in the National Register of Historic Places; contributing building in the Union Depot-Warehouse Historic District

Location: 1717 Pacific Avenue

Architectural Style: Beaux-Arts

Primary Materials: Brick and concrete with copper roof and limestone trim

Prominent Features: Ninety-foot copper dome and interior rotunda; Glass art displays by Tacoma native Dale Chihuly